



# A G E N D A

## OCONEE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

### July 18, 2023

### 6:00 PM

Council Chambers, Oconee County Administrative Offices  
415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC

#### Call to Order

#### Moment of Silence

#### Invocation by County Council Chaplin

#### Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

#### Approval of Minutes

June 20, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes

#### County Attorney Comments

#### County Administrator Comments

#### Public Comment Session

*[Limited to a total of fifty (50) minutes, five (5) minutes per person]*

*If you are not able to attend in person and you have a comment, you may submit it by emailing [jennifercadams@oconeesc.com](mailto:jennifercadams@oconeesc.com) or calling 864-718-1023, so that your comment may be read into the record.*

#### Council Member Comments

**Public Hearings for the Following Ordinances** *If you would like to be heard during either of the public hearings, please contact Clerk to Council Jennifer C. Adams at [jennifercadams@oconeesc.com](mailto:jennifercadams@oconeesc.com) or 864-718-1023 so that your participation may be coordinated.*

**ORDINANCE 2023-12** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING, PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AND SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND PROJECT IRON MAN, ACTING FOR ITSELF, ONE OR MORE CURRENT OR FUTURE AFFILIATES AND OTHER PROJECT COMPANIES (COLLECTIVELY, "COMPANY"); PROVIDING FOR A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES INCENTIVE; PROVIDING FOR A SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT; DEVELOPING A JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK BETWEEN OCONEE COUNTY AND PICKENS COUNTY SO AS TO DESIGNATE THE PROPERTY OF THE PROJECT AS PART OF THE PARK; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

#### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Matthew Durham, Chair, District II      Don Mize, Vice Chair, District III  
Glenn Hart, Chair Pro-Tem, District V      John Elliott, District I  
Julian Davis, III, District IV

**ORDINANCE 2023-13** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, TAX-EXEMPT OR TAXABLE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESIGNING, ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, INSTALLING, EQUIPPING, OR REHABILITATING VARIOUS CAPITAL PROJECTS, INCLUDING WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO PRESCRIBE THE FORM AND DETAILS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS AND THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR BORROWING IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

*(This is a preliminary public hearing for the above-captioned ordinance. The statutorily-required public hearing will be held at a future date, the notice of which will be published in advance of that hearing.)*

### **Third Reading of the Following Ordinances**

**ORDINANCE 2023-12** *[see caption above]*

### **Second Reading of the Following Ordinances**

*None scheduled for this meeting.*

### **First Reading of the Following Ordinances**

**ORDINANCE 2023-13** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, IN ONE OR MORE SERIES, TAX-EXEMPT OR TAXABLE, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$25,000,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF DESIGNING, ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, INSTALLING, EQUIPPING, OR REHABILITATING VARIOUS CAPITAL PROJECTS, INCLUDING WASTEWATER IMPROVEMENTS AND RELATED EQUIPMENT; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO PRESCRIBE THE FORM AND DETAILS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE BONDS AND THE DISPOSITION OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR BORROWING IN ANTICIPATION OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE BONDS; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS.

### **First & Final Reading for the Following Resolutions**

*None scheduled for this meeting.*

### **Discussion Regarding Action Items**

*Discussion and consideration of Brush Grinding Options at the C&D Landfill.*

*Discuss Grant and Performance Agreements (“Agreements”) benefiting Akasol, Inc. / Project EVPack-Oconee, and authorize the County Administrator and County Council Chair to execute and deliver the Agreements on behalf of Oconee County.*

*Discussion and consideration of lifting a portion of the hiring freeze to meet demands and address critical needs in Oconee County.*

#### **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

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Glenn Hart, Chair Pro-Tem, District V      John Elliott, District I  
Julian Davis, III, District IV

**Consideration of approval to place the Walhalla Middle School Resource Officer under the supervision of the Sheriff as an employee of Oconee County.**

There are currently eighteen (18) school resource officers in Oconee County, seventeen (17) currently work for the Sheriff's Office, while one (1) works for the Walhalla Police Department. The Walhalla City Officer is retiring. The Walhalla City Police Chief, the Sheriff and the School District have been in agreement that when the Walhalla City officer retires, the replacement would be a Sheriff's Deputy.

Salary and fringe benefits for this position are compensated by the School District. The only cost to Oconee County will be the needed equipment for the Deputy, along with a vehicle. In addition to the salary and fringe benefits, the School District has agreed to reimburse the Sheriff's Office up to \$20,000 to go toward the first-year cost for equipment and a vehicle.

**The Sheriff's Office will need \$17,150.00 to pay for the remainder of the first-year cost associated with this position.**

*It is staff's recommendation replace the Walhalla Middle School Resource Officer position with a Sheriff's Deputy. This will ensure continuity with policies, procedures and training with all school resource officers in Oconee County.*

**Request for Council's consideration to support the Oconee County application for the South Carolina Parks, Recreation and Tourism "Undiscovered SC" grant and approval to commit matching funds, not to exceed \$50,000, for the further development of the Foothills Farmstead.**

**Amount: Not to exceed \$50,000**

- On October 10, 2019, Oconee County entered into a Ground Lease Agreement with the Foothills Farmstead for property designated as "Lease Parcel 2" on the survey by Stephen R. Edwards. On June 06, 2023, Oconee County Council voted to add Tract I as additional property to allow for further expansion of the historical farmstead and related facilities.
- The Foothills Farmstead is requesting funds for further development of the Foothills Farmstead site, including the assembly of a 1920s schoolhouse, the rebuilding of three large, working fireplaces and chimneys on the main farmhouse, the installation of a pre-fabricated restroom facility and clearing/paving for the development of an access area and parking.
- South Carolina Parks, Recreation and Tourism "Undiscovered SC" is accepting grant applications until July 23, 2023.
- A "Letter of Intent" has been submitted and approved by SCPRT for a request from the Foothills Farmstead in the amount of \$50,000.
- It is a 1:1 matching grant.
- If approved, the grant money would be financially managed/lead applicant by Oconee County, with Foothills Farmstead as the Project Management. Bring the recipient of SCPRT funds.
- The SCPRT grant is a reimbursing grant, if award, Oconee County would be reimbursed for spent funds as often as monthly, up to \$50,000 total with required reimbursable documentation to SCPRT.

**The balance of funding needed for the grant would come from the Capital Projects Fund and would not exceed \$50,000.**

**The allocation of funds is contingent on the award from the SCPRT "Undiscovered SC" grant.**

*It is the staff's recommendation that Council support Undiscovered SC grant application for the purpose of further developing the Foothills Farmstead historical site, and approve the commitment for matching funds, if awarded.*

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

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Glenn Hart, Chair Pro-Tem, District V      John Elliott, District I  
Julian Davis, III, District IV

## Council Committee Reports

*None for this meeting.*

## Board & Commission Appointments

*The Board & Commission seats listed below are co-terminus with Council District seats and will require [in the 1st quarter of 2023] appointment and/or reappointment as follows:*

### Aeronautics Commission

District I: No questionnaires on file for this seat

### Agricultural Advisory Board

District IV: No questionnaires on file for this seat

### Board of Zoning Appeals

District IV: 1 questionnaire on file for this seat

## Executive Session

*[upon reconvening Council may take a Vote and/or take Action on matters brought up for discussion in Executive Session, if required]*

- 1. Discuss personnel matter – County Attorney.*
- 2. Receive legal advice and discuss ongoing litigation – King v. Oconee County, et al.*
- 3. Discussion regarding an Economic Development matter, Project Galt.*

## Adjourn

### COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Glenn Hart, Chair Pro-Tem, District V      John Elliott, District I  
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